

## Cow and Calf Moose Feed Along the Shallow Edge of Upper Ebeemee Lake

*Under a vivid blue sky and into a stiff head wind that is cool and comforting, I paddle my equipment-laden kayak to the northern shore of Upper Ebeemee Lake in TBR10 WELS. A belted kingfisher escorts me in flight along the densely forested shoreline. Near the mouth of Wangan Brook there is a nearby sandbar revealing river otter, white-tail deer, and moose tracks; a perfect place to position a blind. After several hours the only wildlife observed is a graceful great blue heron, flying low out of the mouth of the brook.*

*With the setting sun nearing the western horizon casting its warm glow on the eastern shore, a cow moose with its calf ambles out of the forest onto the tranquil lake. Both animals are already draped in their winter coats as they grasp sinewy strands of vegetation from the shallow waters. The moose vigilantly focus their ears for any sounds of predators and show no sign of concern from the camera's clicking shutter while I photograph them from over 200 yards away with a bulky telephoto lens. The single hoot of a great horned owl adds drama to an already exquisite moment.*

*Thomas Mark Szelog*



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